

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Eastern District of New York

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- v -

George Anthony Devolder Santos

Presiding Judge: **Joanna Seybert, Senior U.S.D.J.**Case No(s): **23-cr-0197-JS-AYS**Date: **4/25/2025**Start Time: **10:35 AM** Total Time: **1 hr. 30 mins.**

MINUTE ENTRY FOR A CRIMINAL PROCEEDING

SEALED PROCEEDING: ☐ Yes ☒ No

I. APPEARANCES:

 Defendant (# 1): **George Anthony Devolder Santos**
☒ Present ☐ Not Present ☐ In Custody ☒ On Bond ☐ Surrendered

 Counsel: **Andrew Mancilla, Robert Fanone, Jr., and Joseph Murray**
☒ Retained ☐ Federal Defender ☐ CJA ☐

 Defendant (# _____): _____
☐ Present ☐ Not Present ☐ In Custody ☐ On Bond ☐ Surrendered

 Counsel: _____
☐ Retained ☐ Federal Defender ☐ CJA ☐

 Defendant (# _____): _____
☐ Present ☐ Not Present ☐ In Custody ☐ On Bond ☐ Surrendered

 Counsel: _____
☐ Retained ☐ Federal Defender ☐ CJA ☐

 Defendant (# _____): _____
☐ Present ☐ Not Present ☐ In Custody ☐ On Bond ☐ Surrendered

 Counsel: _____
☐ Retained ☐ Federal Defender ☐ CJA ☐

 Defendant (# _____): _____
☐ Present ☐ Not Present ☐ In Custody ☐ On Bond ☐ Surrendered

 Counsel: _____
☐ Retained ☐ Federal Defender ☐ CJA ☐

 Defendant (# _____): _____
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 Counsel: _____
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 Counsel: _____
☐ Retained ☐ Federal Defender ☐ CJA ☐

 Defendant (# _____): _____
☐ Present ☐ Not Present ☐ In Custody ☐ On Bond ☐ Surrendered

 Counsel: _____
☐ Retained ☐ Federal Defender ☐ CJA ☐

 Government: **Ryan Harris, Anthony Bagnuola, and**
Laura Zuckerwise

Interpreter(s): _____

Language: _____

Pretrial Services: _____

Court Reporter(s): **Lisa Schmid**Probation Dept.: **Erica Vest**

Other Appearances: _____

FTR Time(s): _____

Courtroom Deputy: **Eric L. Russo**

II. PROCEEDINGS HELD:

☒ In-Person☐ Arraignment (*see pg. 2*)☐ Initial Appearance (*see pg. 2*)☐ Plea Hearing (*see pg. 4*)☐ By Telephone☐ Bond Hearing (*see pg. 5*)☐ Jury Deliberation (*see pg. 3*)☐ Pre-Trial Conference (*see pg. 2*)☐ By Video☐ Curcio Hearing (*see pg. 3*)☐ Jury Selection (*see pg. 3*)☐ Resentencing (*see pg. 4*)☐ Detention Hearing (*see pg. 5*)☐ Jury Trial (*see pg. 3*)☒ Sentencing (*see pg. 4*)☐ Evidentiary Hearing (*see pg. 2*)☐ Motion Hearing (*see pg. 2*)☐ Status Conference (*see pg. 2*)☐ Fatco Hearing (*see pg. 2*)☐ Other Proceeding: _____

III. SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS:

- ☐ _____ held as to _____.
- ☐ This was an initial appearance before this Court by Defendant _____.
- ☐ Defendant _____ waived Indictment.
- ☐ Waiver of Indictment executed by Defendant _____.
- ☐ Defendant _____ waived the public reading of the charging instrument.
- ☐ Defendant _____ was advised of, and acknowledged, the charges outlined in the charging instrument.
- ☐ The Government was advised of, and acknowledged, its obligation under F.R.Cr.P. Rule 5(f) and the Due Process Protections Act.
- ☐ A written order will be entered fully describing this obligation and the possible consequences of failing to meet it.
- ☐ Defendant _____ entered a plea of NOT GUILTY as to all counts of the charging instrument.
- ☐ The parties advised the Court of the status of the case.
- ☐ Defendant _____ consented to the exclusion of Speedy Trial time from _____ to _____ pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3161.
- ☐ Defendant _____ did not consent to the exclusion of Speedy Trial time.
- ☐ The Court ordered the exclusion of Speedy Trial time from _____ to _____ pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3161.
- ☐ The Court deemed, or previously deemed, this case COMPLEX and Speedy Trial time was excluded pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3161(h)(7)(B)(ii).
- ☐ The Court deemed, or previously deemed, this case TRIAL READY.
- ☐ The Court set the following pre-trial submission schedule:
- ☐ The Government shall turn over all 3500 material and 404(b) evidence to the defendant(s) by: _____
- ☐ Motion(s) in Limine and all supporting papers shall be filed by: _____
- ☐ Opposition(s) to Motions in Limine and all supporting papers shall be filed by: _____
- ☐ Reply(ies) to Motions in Limine and all supporting papers shall be filed by: _____
- ☐ Proposed voir dire questions and a brief case summary shall be filed by: _____
- ☐ Proposed exhibits and a witness list shall be filed by: _____
- ☐ Proposed jury charge and verdict sheet shall be filed by: _____
- ☐ The Court will not grant any extensions of the deadlines set forth above.
- ☐ The parties are directed to submit courtesy copies of their submissions in accordance with the Court's Individual Rules (see Rule IV).
- ☐ The parties are directed to e-mail copies of the proposed case summary, voir dire questions, witness list, jury charge, and verdict sheets in Word format to the Chambers e-mail at "Seybert_Chambers@nyed.uscourts.gov".
- ☐ The parties were directed to file a proposed pre-trial submission schedule on or before _____.
- ☐ The Court will enter a separate order outlining the pre-trial submission schedule.
- ☐ See Section VI and/or Section VII (*page 7*) for additional details and/or rulings.
- ☐ _____ Hearing held.
- ☐ Hearing held regarding _____.
- ☐ The parties presented their oral arguments to the Court.
- ☐ Witness(es) were called for the: ☐ Government; ☐ defendant(s).
- ☐ Exhibits were entered into evidence.
- ☐ The following briefing schedule was set:
- ☐ _____ shall file and serve the motion and all supporting papers by: _____
- ☐ _____ shall file and serve the opposition to the motion and all supporting papers by: _____
- ☐ _____ shall file and serve the cross-motion and all supporting papers by: _____
- ☐ _____ shall file and serve the reply and all supporting papers by: _____
- ☐ _____ shall file and serve the opposition to the cross motion and all supporting papers by: _____
- ☐ _____ shall file and serve the reply to the cross motion and all supporting papers by: _____
- ☐ The Court will not grant any extensions of the deadlines set forth above.
- ☐ The parties are directed to submit courtesy copies of their submissions in accordance with the Court's Individual Rules (see Rule IV).
- ☐ The parties were directed to file a proposed briefing schedule on or before _____.
- ☐ The Court will enter a separate order outlining the briefing schedule.
- ☐ The Court made the following ruling(s):
- ☐ GRANTED, as to: _____.
- ☐ DENIED, as to: _____.
- ☐ GRANTED, in part, as to: _____.
- ☐ Decision RESERVED, as to: _____.
- ☐ The Court's decision: ☐ was entered on the record; ☐ will be entered under a separate order.
- ☐ See Section VI and/or Section VII (*page 7*) for additional details and/or rulings.

- ☐ Curcio Hearing held as to Defendant _____.
☐ Attorney _____ (☐ Federal Defender ☐ CJA) was appointed to represent the defendant for purposes of this hearing.
☐ The parties presented their oral arguments to the Court.
☐ The defendant was informed of the potential dangers arising from any conflicts of interest with current defense counsel.
☐ The defendant acknowledged and waived any potential conflicts of interest and wishes to proceed with current defense counsel.
☐ The defendant requested that current counsel be relieved and:
☐ that the defendant will retain new counsel.
☐ The defendant must retain new counsel: ☐ by _____; ☐ within _____ of this hearing.
☐ that the Court appoint new counsel.
☐ The defendant completed and filed the CJA 23 Financial Affidavit for the Court's review.
☐ The Court's decision: ☐ was RESERVED; ☐ was entered on the record; ☐ will be entered under a separate order.
☐ See Section VI and/or Section VII (*page 7*) for additional details and/or rulings.
- ☐ Jury Selection/Voir Dire held.
☐ The Court ordered the jury to be: ☐ anonymous; ☐ sequestered; ☐ semi-sequestered; ☐ _____.
☐ The prospective jurors were sworn and given preliminary instructions by the Court.
☐ The prospective jurors were asked questions touching upon their qualifications to serve as jurors.
☐ A jury of _____, with _____ alternates, were selected and are satisfactory to all parties.
☐ See Section VI and/or Section VII (*page 7*) for additional details and/or rulings.
- ☐ Jury Trial held.
☐ A jury of _____, with _____ alternates, previously selected by _____, are satisfactory to all parties.
☐ The selected jurors were sworn as trial jurors.
☐ The jurors were given preliminary instructions by the Court.
☐ Opening statements were heard from the: ☐ Government; ☐ Defense Counsel.
☐ Witness(es) were called for the: ☐ Government; ☐ defendant(s).
☐ Exhibit(s) were entered into evidence.
☐ The Government rested its case.
☐ The defense rested its case.
☐ A Charge Conference was held with the Court and counsel.
☐ Summations were heard from the: ☐ Government; ☐ Defense Counsel; ☐ Government (*Rebuttal*).
☐ The Court charged the jury.
☐ See Section VI and/or Section VII (*page 7*) for additional details and/or rulings.
- ☐ Jury Deliberation held.
☐ The U.S. Marshal/Court Security Officer was sworn to monitor the jurors during deliberations.
☐ Jury Notes were received and marked as Court Exhibits.
☐ The Court instructed the jury to continue their deliberations pursuant to Allen v. United States (*Allen Charge*).
☐ The jury rendered the following verdict:
☐ _____ on Count(s): _____ as to Defendant _____.
☐ _____ on Count(s): _____ as to Defendant _____.
☐ _____ on Count(s): _____ as to Defendant _____.
☐ _____ on Count(s): _____ as to Defendant _____.
☐ The jurors were polled as to their verdict.
☐ The Verdict Sheet was received and marked as a Court Exhibit.
☐ The Court charged the jury on the forfeiture allegation count(s) and instructed them to continue their deliberations.
☐ Jury Notes were received and marked as Court Exhibits.
☐ The jury rendered their verdict regarding the forfeiture allegation count(s).
☐ The jurors were polled as to their verdict.
☐ The Special Verdict Sheet was received and marked as a Court Exhibit.
☐ The jurors, including alternates, were excused with the thanks of the Court.
☐ The Conviction Notification Form was executed and sent to the U.S. Probation Department.
☐ See Section VI and/or Section VII (*page 7*) for additional details and/or rulings.

- ☐ Plea Hearing held as to count(s) _____ of the _____-count _____.
- ☐ The Court's Standard Plea Form was executed by the parties.
- ☐ The defendant was advised of, and acknowledged, the constitutional rights that will be waived when entering a plea of guilty.
- ☐ The defendant withdrew previously entered not guilty plea and entered a plea of GUILTY to the above referenced count(s).
- ☐ The Court found that there is a factual basis for the guilty plea and ACCEPTED the defendant's plea of guilty.
- ☐ An Order of Forfeiture was executed.
- ☐ The Court ordered the U.S. Probation Department to prepare and submit an EXPEDITED Presentence Investigation Report.
- ☐ The parties consented to hold the preparation of the Presentence Investigation Report in ABEYANCE.
- ☐ The Conviction Notification Form was executed and sent to the U.S. Probation Department.
- ☐ The parties WAIVED the preparation of the Presentence Investigation Report.
- ☐ See Section VI and/or Section VII (page 7) for additional details and/or rulings.
- ☒ Sentencing held as to count(s) 2 and 6 of the 23-count Second Superseding Indictment (S-2) filed 5/28/2024.
- ☐ The parties advised the Court that there are no objections or corrections to the Presentence Investigation Report.
- ☒ Objections/Corrections to the Presentence Investigation Report were outlined on the record by: ☒ Defense Counsel; ☐ the Government.
- ☒ The Court adopted the Presentence Investigation Report without change.
- ☐ Changes to the Presentence Investigation Report were made by the Court as stated on the record.
- ☒ Oral presentations to the Court were made by: ☒ Defense Counsel; ☒ the defendant; ☒ the Government.
- ☒ Additional presentations were made to the Court by: ☒ the victim(s); ☐ _____; ☐ _____.
- ☒ The defendant was sentenced to IMPRISONMENT for a total term of:
- ☐ TIME SERVED. The post-sentencing report form was executed and sent to the U.S. Probation Department.
- ☒ EIGHTY-SEVEN (87) MONTHS.
- ☒ Upon release, the defendant shall be on SUPERVISED RELEASE for a total term of TWO (2) YEARS.
- ☒ The defendant shall comply with the mandatory and standard conditions of supervision.
- ☐ One or more of the mandatory/standard conditions of supervision were not ordered or were amended by the Court.
- ☒ The defendant shall comply with the special conditions of supervision ordered by the Court.
- ☐ The Court did not impose a term of Supervised Release.
- ☐ The defendant was sentenced to PROBATION for a total term of _____.
- ☐ The defendant shall comply with the mandatory and standard conditions of supervision.
- ☐ One or more of the mandatory/standard conditions of supervision were not ordered or were amended by the Court.
- ☐ The defendant shall comply with the special conditions of supervision ordered by the Court.
- ☒ The defendant must pay the following criminal monetary penalties:
- ☒ RESTITUTION in the amount of: \$ 373,749.97
- ☒ An Order of Restitution was executed.
- ☐ A FINE in the amount of: \$ _____
- ☒ A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT fine in the amount of: \$ 200.00
- ☐ An AVAA ASSESSMENT fine in the amount of: \$ _____
- ☐ A JVTA ASSESSMENT fine in the amount of: \$ _____
- ☒ The interest requirement on any of the criminal monetary penalties:
- ☒ was ordered on the amounts of more than \$2,500.00.
- ☐ was modified by the Court as stated on the record.
- ☐ was waived/not ordered/not applicable.
- ☐ Restitution: ☐ was not ordered or not applicable; ☐ was paid in full prior to sentencing.
- ☒ A fine and/or other assessment: ☒ was not ordered or not applicable; ☐ was paid in full prior to sentencing.
- ☐ The determination of Restitution and/or a fine was deferred pending further proceedings or by further motion to the Court.
- ☒ The Order of Forfeiture dated 12/19/2024 was adopted as the Final Order of Forfeiture and will be included as part of the judgment.
- ☐ An Order of Forfeiture was executed and will be included as part of the judgment.
- ☐ All other conditions shall remain in effect as previously ordered by the Court on _____.
- ☒ The defendant's RIGHT TO APPEAL the Court's sentence:
- ☒ was waived (pursuant to the Plea/Cooperation Agreement, or as stated on the record).
- ☐ is preserved. The defendant may file an appeal within fourteen (14) days of the date that the judgment is entered, not filed.
- ☒ All open counts in the outstanding charging instrument(s) were dismissed on the motion of the United States.
- ☒ See Section VI and/or Section VII (page 7) for additional details and/or rulings.

IV. RULINGS MADE REGARDING DEFENDANT RELEASE STATUS:

- ☐ _____ Hearing held.
- ☐ Defendant _____ did not present a bond application to the Court.
- ☐ An Order of Detention was executed as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ An Order Scheduling a Detention Hearing was executed as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ The bond application/modification was GRANTED as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ An Order Setting Conditions of Release and Bond was executed as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ The conditions of release were modified as to Defendant _____, as stated on the record.
- ☐ An amended Order Setting Conditions of Release and Bond was executed as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ The bond application/modification was DENIED as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ An Order of Detention was executed as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ The Government moved for immediate detention of Defendant _____.
- ☐ The motion was ☐ GRANTED; ☐ DENIED; ☐ GRANTED, in part.
- ☐ An Arrest Warrant was executed as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ An Order of Detention was executed as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ The conditions of release were modified as to Defendant _____, as stated on the record.
- ☐ An amended Order Setting Conditions of Release and Bond was executed as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ The decision regarding the bond or detention application was RESERVED.
- ☐ An Order Scheduling a Detention Hearing was executed as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ A temporary Order Setting Conditions of Release and Bond was executed as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ See Section VI and/or Section VII (*page 7*) for additional details and/or rulings.

For a defendant currently IN-CUSTODY:

- ☐ Defendant _____ remain(s) in custody.
- ☐ The following orders were executed and shall be forwarded to the U.S. Marshals Service and/or the Federal Bureau of Prisons:
- ☐ A Medical Evaluation Order as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ A Competency Order as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ A Force Order as to Defendant _____.
- ☐ The defendant, being sentenced to TIME SERVED (*time in-custody prior to sentencing/re-sentencing*), shall be RELEASED, FORTHWITH.
- ☐ A Time Served Order was executed and submitted to the U.S. Marshals Service.
- ☐ The defendant will be under supervision of the U.S. Probation Department until the completion of the ordered term of Supervised Release.
- ☐ The defendant will not serve a term of Supervised Release.

For a defendant currently AT LIBERTY:

- ☐ Defendant _____ remain(s) on bond.
- ☐ The defendant, being sentenced to a TERM OF IMPRISONMENT, shall be IMMEDIATELY REMANDED to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service and/or the Federal Bureau of Prisons.
- ☒ The defendant, being sentenced to a TERM OF IMPRISONMENT, shall surrender for the service of the sentence before 2:00 PM on 7/25/2025 at the institution designated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons. The defendant will REMAIN AT LIBERTY and under supervision of the Pretrial Services Department until the ordered surrender date.
- ☒ The U.S. Marshals Voluntary Surrender form was executed.
- ☐ Any motion to extend the surrender date must be made at least a thirty (30) days prior to the ordered surrender date.
- ☐ The defendant was advised that there will be no extensions of the surrender date.
- ☐ The defendant, being sentenced to a TERM OF PROBATION, will REMAIN AT LIBERTY and under supervision of the U.S. Probation Department until the completion of the ordered term of Probation.
- ☐ The defendant, being sentenced to TIME SERVED (*time in-custody prior to being released*), shall REMAIN AT LIBERTY and under supervision of the U.S. Probation Department until the completion of the ordered term of Supervised Release.
- ☐ The defendant, being sentenced to TIME SERVED (*time in-custody prior to being released as well as time under supervision*), SHALL BE RELEASED FROM ALL CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION, FORTHWITH.

V. FURTHER PROCEEDINGS SET:

☒ No further proceedings have been set at this time for Defendant ____ 1 ____.

☐ The following proceeding has been set for Defendant _____:

☐ _____ is set for _____ at _____ before _____, _____.

☐ The Government's sentencing memorandum is due by: _____

☐ The defendant's sentencing memorandum is due by: _____

☐ Additional details regarding the proceeding set:

☐ The following proceeding has been set for Defendant _____:

☐ _____ is set for _____ at _____ before _____, _____.

☐ The Government's sentencing memorandum is due by: _____

☐ The defendant's sentencing memorandum is due by: _____

☐ Additional details regarding the proceeding set:

☐ The following proceeding has been set for Defendant _____:

☐ _____ is set for _____ at _____ before _____, _____.

☐ The Government's sentencing memorandum is due by: _____

☐ The defendant's sentencing memorandum is due by: _____

☐ Additional details regarding the proceeding set:

☐ The following proceeding has been set for Defendant _____:

☐ _____ is set for _____ at _____ before _____, _____.

☐ The Government's sentencing memorandum is due by: _____

☐ The defendant's sentencing memorandum is due by: _____

☐ Additional details regarding the proceeding set:

☐ The parties are directed to file their sentencing memoranda in accordance with the Court's Individual Rules (see Rule VII(D)(2)).

☐ The Court ordered one or more of the proceedings above to be held telephonically. The parties are directed to initiate a conference call among themselves, then they are to call the Court's Courtroom Deputy at the following number: **631-712-5615**.

☐ The Court ordered one or more of the proceedings above to be held by video, **via ZoomGov**. The parties on the case will be sent a separate notice by the Court's Courtroom Deputy with instructions on how to log into the video meeting as the scheduled date for the proceeding approaches.

☐ See Section VI and/or Section VII (*page 7*) for additional details regarding the proceeding(s) set.

VI. OTHER RULINGS MADE DURING THE PROCEEDINGS:

☐ **The record of this proceeding was ordered SEALED.** Transcripts of this proceeding can be made available to the Court, the defendant(s), defense counsel, and the Government **ONLY**. Any other non-party must file a written request to the Court for permission to receive a copy of the transcripts.

☒ The Court made the following rulings:

- The Court recommends the following to the Bureau of Prisons: [1] That the defendant be housed in a facility within the North-East region of the United States for the service of his sentence; [2] That the defendant participate in a mental health treatment program; and [3] That the defendant participate in a Residential Drug Abuse Treatment Program (RDAP).

VII. ADDITIONAL RULINGS:

☐ The Court makes the following additional rulings (*not addressed during the proceedings*):